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Boozhoo,

There are many within the tribe whom I've not had the pleasure of speaking with. Allow me to introduce myself. I'm a child of the Round Lake community: born, raised and lived entirely. Son of Annabelle Merrill and Gary Nichols and brother to some rockstar siblings. I am blessed with a wonderful soon to be wife and an amazing son to which I can honestly say there is no better title I've been given than being called "Dad". I've always considered family to be my foundation and I'm ever so thankful to be a part of such a great family. It is because of my family that I'm honored to say hello and introduce myself in this manner. Without them, meeting you in this way would be impossible.

So, who am I and why do I think I should be considered? First and foremost, I'm a highly ethical individual bound by a strong sense of morality. I do this from my foundation. It is simply what I do. Additionally, to reinforce this I've been trained and educated to perform at a high level of integrity. I'm a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - Stout with Cum Laude honors. It's because of my values, ethics and experience, backed by my education, that I was able to expand my endeavors beyond our borders. It's here where I helped a Behavioral Health organization exceed into a market it had never been creating multiple locations of care. From there I joined a company as it set out on a rebranding journey to grow into a new era of prosperity for itself and the community. I created and reinforced policies intended to protect members. I trained management and multiple teams that had been designed to foster new pathways to successful leadership. I helped many achieve and expand their own career and education goals.

This is the vision I hope to bring home. Within our communities I have instilled environmental efforts that have shown great impact. From substance abuse prevention to guiding and educating our next generation that they can achieve their own aspirations. I hope to affirm rules that govern us, adjust the ones that hinder us, and rid ourselves of policies and mentalities that do us great harm. I've had success in my own life from winning championships, watching my son grow and achieve his goals to obtaining my own educational goals. I hope to help and guide St. Croix to create rules, regulations and policy to foster an environment where tribal membership and all those who support St. Croix, succeed.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know just a small part of me - and for your consideration.

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Douglas H. P. Merrill

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